Applicants: Claus et al. Preliminary Amendment

Amdt. dated December 29, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, preceding paragraph [001], please insert the following:

-- CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority based on an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty, PCT/EP03/07364, filed on July 9, 2003, and German Patent Application No. DE 102 37 976.9, filed on August 20, 2002.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION --

Page 1, preceding paragraph [0002], please insert the following:

-- BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION --

Page 1, preceding paragraph [0003], please insert the following:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--

Page 2, please delete paragraph [0007].

Page 5, preceding paragraph [0015], please insert the following:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--

Page 6, preceding paragraph [0023], please insert the following:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--